

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 06663 261715Z

17

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

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----- 044263

R 261640Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9151

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 6663

PASS LABOR DEPT FOR SEGALL/AVERY/HARMON

FROM USDEL

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OCON, ELAB, OAS, GT

SUBJ: FIFTH INTER-AMERICAN CONF. OF LABOR MINISTERS

INTERIM REPORT

1. A TOTAL OF 127 DELEGATES REPRESENTING 19 MEMBER STATES OF THE OAS ARE ATTENDING THE FIFTH INTER-AMERICAN CONF. OF LABOR MINISTERS WHICH OPENED IN GUATEMALA CITY, NOV 21. INCLUDED ARE 13 LABOR MINISTERS. LABOR SECRETARY JOHN DUNLOP IS HEADING THE 12-MEMBER US DELEGATION. ALSO PRESENT ARE REPS FROM BELGIUM, CANADA, FRANCE, GERMANY, ISRAEL, ITALY AND SPAIN, AS WELL AS FROM 13 INTER-NATIONAL AND REGIONAL BODIES, INCLUDING THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON WOMEN AND THE ILO. BAHAMAS, BARBADOS, GRENADA AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ARE NOT REPRESENTED.

2. THE FIRST FOUR DAYS OF THE CONFERENCE HAVE BEEN DEVOTED TO (1) MINISTERIAL SPEECHMAKING, (2) CORRIDOR ACTIVITIES BY DELS SEEKING SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTIONS THEY ARE SPONSORING, AND (3) UNEVEN DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS. EXAMINATION AND DEBATE ON RESOLUTIONS (42 IN ALL) BEGIN IN EARNEST NOV 26. GUATEMALAN LABOR MINISTER CORZO IS SERVING AS PRESIDENT OF THE 8-DAY CONF.
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3. SECRETARY DUNLOP'S ADDRESS TO DELEGATES DELIVERED NOV 24 HIGHLIGHTED THREE THEMES INCLUDED IN PREPARED TEXT DISTRIBUTED TO CONFEREES AND PRESS THAT MORNING: CLOSE LINKAGE OF LABOR POLICY AND GENERAL ECONOMIC POLICY; COLLABORATION OF LABOR, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNMENT IN SHAPING AND IMPLEMENTING ECONOMIC POLICY; AND FUNDAMENTAL ROLE OF FREE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING. CONFERENCE REACTION AND LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE WERE GOOD.

4. THUS FAR NO RESOLUTIONS ON PURELY POLITICAL ISSUES (IE, PANAMA CANAL, HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE, PUERTO RICO) HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED, AND AS THINGS STAND NOW CHANCES ARE THAT THESE ISSUES WILL NOT ARISE.

ANDREWS

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NNN

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